CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_3R_2R_1N & & & \\ \oplus & & & \\ OR_6 & R_4 & OR_6 & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} NR'_1R'_2R'_3 \\ \oplus & & \\ OR_6 & R_4 & OR_6 & & \\ \end{array}$$

wherein each R_1 , R'_1 , R_2 , R'_2 , R_3 , R'_3 , R_4 or R_5 is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, aralkyl and $-CH_2-CH(OR_6)-CH_2N^{\dagger}R_1R_2R_3$; wherein one or more R_6 group is selected from the group consisting of:

and

and wherein An is an anion.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein one R₁ group and the R₄ group comprise a single alkyl group having one or more carbons, and wherein the alkyl group forms part of a cyclic structure that further comprises two positively charged nitrogen centers separated by a three-carbon fragment bearing an -OR₆ group.

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3. A compound of the formula

$$\begin{bmatrix} OR_4 & \\ R_3R_2R_1N & \\ \oplus & \end{bmatrix} An \bigcirc$$

wherein each R_1 , R'_1 , R_2 , R'_2 , R_3 or R'_3 group is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, aralkyl and -CH₂-CH(OR₄)-CH₂N⁺R₁R₂R₃; wherein one or more R₄ group is selected from the group consisting of:

and

and wherein An is an anion.

- 4. The compound of claim 3, wherein the R₁ and R'₁ groups comprise a single alkyl group having one or more carbons, and wherein said alkyl group forms part of a cyclic structure that further comprises two positively charged nitrogen centers separated by a three-carbon fragment bearing an -OR₄ group.
- 5. The compound of claim 3 wherein the one or more R₄ groups is a 2,3-epoxypropyl group.
- 6. A modified carbohydrate formed by the reaction of:
 - a. the compound of claims 1,2,3,4 or 5; and
 - b. a carbohydrate having one or more hydroxyl groups.
- 7. The modified carbohydrate of claim 6 wherein the carbohydrate is a starch.
- 8. The method of making the compound of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7.
- 9. The method of using the compound of claims 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to make a modified carbohydrate.

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- 10. The method of using the modified carbohydrate of claim 6 as a waste water treatment agent.
- 11. The method of using the modified carbohydrate of claim 6 in a papermaking process.